

Clerks and Finance Officer Association; International Institute of Municipal Clerk's Board Member of the Missouri Municipal League; and a member of the Morgan County Historical Society.

In addition, Kay is a member of the Women's Civic Club; a member of the Gold Wing Road Riders Association; a charter member of Missouri B-2 Gold Wing Riders Association; was awarded the B-2 Chapter of the Year Couple in 2000 & 2007; a member of West Central Riders; has served on the Chamber of Commerce Board and Old Tyme Apple Festival for 23 years; was chosen Citizen of the Year January, 1991; co-established the Adult Winter Volleyball league; a member of the 1986 Co-Ed Volleyball Team that placed 2nd in the Missouri Show-Me State Games; and Chaired the Committee to enter The Old Tyme Apple Festival into the Library of Congress for its Birthday Celebration.

Leona "Kay" Hutchison Williams is a leader in her community. She was one of the first tellers at the Morgan County Bank in 1963 and has served as secretary for the National Farmers Organization. Ms. Williams has also served as city clerk, city collector, and deputy city clerk working with 7 mayors and 35 different aldermen. Outside of public service, her greatest joy is time spent with her husband, Lonnie Joe, their two daughters, and one step grandson.

Madam Speaker, I wish Leona "Kay" Hutchison Williams all the best in her retirement and I know the Members of the House will join me in thanking her for her commitment to her community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2007

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, unfortunately yesterday, March 12, 2007, I was unable to cast my votes on H.R. 85, H. Res. 136, and H. Res. 89 and wish the record to reflect my intentions had I been able to vote.

Had I been present for rollcall No. 136 on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 85, the Energy Technology Transfer Act, I would have voted "yea."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 137 on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H. Res. 136, Commending the Girl Scouts of the United States of America, I would have voted "yea."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 138 on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H. Res. 89, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that a day should be established as Dutch-American Friendship Day, I would have voted "yea."

COMMENDING OPENNESS AND ACCOUNTABILITY LEGISLATION

HON. JERRY McNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2007

Mr. McNERNEY. Madam Speaker, I took to the floor in the beginning days of the 110th

Congress to applaud the aggressive ethics package we passed.

At the time I noted my confidence that those ethics rules were the first of many steps that we would take to bring back trust and civility to Congress.

I'm proud that this week the Congress will take several more steps forward to promote accountability and openness in government by strengthening protections for whistleblowers, providing timely responses to Freedom of Information Act requests, restoring access to Presidential records, and limiting Federal no-bid contracts.

I can think of nothing more important than assuring the people we are elected to serve that this Congress—and indeed this government—is open, ethical and accessible. The measures we will vote on this week continue the important work we have already begun. I commend my colleagues in bringing forward these important pieces of legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2007

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained Monday, March 12, 2007, and missed three suspension votes. Please note in the appropriate place in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD that had I been present, I would have voted as noted below:

Rollcall vote 136: "yea."

Rollcall vote 137: "yea."

Rollcall vote 138: "yea."

INTRODUCING THE LEGAL TIMBER PROTECTION ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2007

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today, along with Congressman ROBERT WEXLER and Congressman JERRY WELLER, I am introducing the "Legal Timber Protection Act, LTPA." The LTPA prohibits trade in illegally harvested timber by extending the protections of the Lacey Act to timber, while ensuring that legal timber trade isn't harmed. Specifically, the LTPA bans the import, export, transport, purchase, sale, or possession of timber that has been taken, possessed, transported, or sold in violation of a foreign law or international environmental treaty. It has been crafted to make sure that it will not prohibit trade in legal timber or impose burdensome regulations on American timber companies.

Illegal logging threatens some of the world's richest and most vulnerable forests. The illegal removal of high-value threatened tree species destined for international markets is often the first step leading to forest clearance. The tracks and roads built to access and remove timber become entryways for further illegal cutting, hunting and burning. The easy accessibility to the depths of the forest and fragmentation further threatens already endangered plants and animals and leaves others vulnerable to achieving this status. As illegal

logging contributes to deforestation, the water balance and dynamics of fragile ecosystems are disrupted. Deforestation accounts for 20 percent of annual global greenhouse gas emissions—more than the entire global transportation sector.

In addition, illegal logging creates huge financial losses to producing nations. By avoiding export duties, timber royalties and taxes on their profits, companies operating unlawfully are robbing national governments of in excess of \$15 billion annually on public lands alone. This loss in revenue decreases governments' ability to invest in the forestry sector to promote sustainable forest management and conserve their natural forest resources.

At the same time, given that as much as 30 percent of hardwood lumber and plywood traded globally could be of suspicious origin, responsible U.S. companies lose an estimated \$460 million in export opportunities every year because of displacement caused by illegally harvested timber. On top of that, the annual value of U.S. exports is between \$500-\$700 million lower due to downward pressure on prices from illegally harvested timber. As Oregon produces approximately 13 percent of U.S. lumber, losses to Oregon are estimated to be between \$130-\$150 million every year.

I look forward to working with my colleagues and with all the stakeholders on this issue to pass this important bipartisan piece of legislation.

A TRIBUTE TO PATRICIA "TRISH" CALLAGHAN

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2007

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Patricia "Trish" Callaghan, of Alhambra, California. Each year in March, in recognition of Women's History Month, we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our Nation's women.

Trish was born in San Francisco, California, and was raised in the San Gabriel Valley. She earned her undergraduate degree from San Diego State University and went on to receive her postgraduate degree from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Ms. Callaghan is widely admired for her long career with the Garvey Unified School District. As an educator, her goal was to make learning a joyful experience that would "come alive" for over a thousand middle school students. Trish set high standards for all her students and created a stimulating, challenging and meaningful learning environment that met the student's diverse needs.

While working as a full-time teacher, Trish participated in special committees and projects at both the school and district levels. She was a member of the Educational Technology Advisory Committee and the Curriculum Planning Committee. Trish was responsible for drafting grants and recruiting funds that supported the school-site technology program. Trish also authored the applications for the California Distinguished School Award in 2006 and the Title I Achieving School in 2004.

Despite her busy career as an educator, Trish has done an excellent job of following her family's motto of "giving back to the community." She has been volunteering for Huntington Hospital for the past 21 years and she